

I call on you to hold an official public hearing in my state.

Before the disastrous 2003 decision to weaken media ownership rules (which a federal court has now overturned), you held only one official public hearing. Further, FCC officials met behind closed doors 71 times with major broadcasters – but only five times with public interest groups. And to justify your actions, you used deceptive, industry-sponsored research data.

The will of Big Media had been heeded at the expense of American citizens and democracy itself. This has to end. Before you rewrite the ownership rules, I demand an official public FCC hearing in my state, impartial and verifiable research, and transparent debates.

It is time to put the needs of democracy – a diverse, skeptical, independent and competitive media system – ahead of profit-hungry media giants.

There is absolutely no reason whatsoever to allow greater media consolidation because the centralization of our information sources only ensures a narrower point of view and undermines our democracy. There is every reason to pull back the amount of consolidation that has already occurred because it will create a greater diversity of voices and perspectives. The only reason to possibly not pull back on consolidation is because you at the FCC believe in fascism and want our media to be as close to the USSR's Pravda as you can get without the public realizing it! Stop consolidation now! I pledge my life to this fight!